

## A MODEL FARM.

Owned by the Texas Pacific Railway. Near Baird—Its Productions of Cereals and Fruits.

Correspondence of the Gazette.

Baird, Aug. 1.—Brief mention has been made from time to time of the experimental farm of the Texas & Pacific near this town. Since the attention of capitalists from all parts of the United States and Europe is now directed to Texas and especially to North-west Texas, this farm became a matter of general interest, as illustrative of the capacities of the soil, and it is due to the public that it should be more fully described. The farm is under the control of Mr. Richardson, an old Texan of 31 years residence, who has been with the land department of the T. & P. road for nearly seven years. Its situation may be called picturesque, lying as it does at the foot of the range of hills south of Baird. The farm house nestles close at the base of these hills, and has all that is incident to the farm houses in the older states, such as the domestic fowls, etc. We noticed some very fine fowls. There were three varieties of geese, specimens of the Toulouse and Hong Kong species. Distinguished among his fowls was a large white Hong Kong gander, which strutted about as if he was proud of himself. There were to be seen also turkeys, ducks, chickens, guineas and pigeons.

Near the house Mr. Richardson has a pond of German carp in which he takes great pride and interest. These fish were forwarded from Washington city about a year ago. They now measure from seven to nine inches and will weigh about one pound each. They were of course very small specimens when sent.

The writer, gathering inspiration from the recollection of a delicious watermelon which Mr. R. and himself fully discussed under the shade of some mesquite trees, will endeavor to give an idea of the products of the soil. Here the watermelon grows in great perfection. They are not only large, but very sweet as well. In this and adjoining counties they grow to an almost incredible size, some weighing as much as one hundred and ten pounds. They are not, however, so large this season, and the largest which the writer observed would not weigh more than sixty pounds. The climate and soil seem peculiarly favorable to the growth of melons and everything that grows on vines, such as muskmelons, pumpkins, squashes and cucumbers. Tomatoes also grow well. Sweet potatoes grow particularly fine, but Irish potatoes do not seem to have done so well on this place; some very fine ones, however, have been produced in the county. We were shown four varieties of Indian corn. It has been persistently asserted that corn could not be raised in this section, but that such is not the case is here clearly demonstrated. We were also shown four varieties of cotton, eight varieties of sorghum, Egyptian and Hungarian millet, twelve varieties of wheat, three varieties of oats, one variety each of barley and rye, two of peanuts, two of castor beans, four of field peas, and Mexican, navy and Texas beans; also butter beans and Lima beans, okra, hemp, flax and rice, Johnson grass and alfalfa. All these are growing in more or less perfection. The rye harvested more than forty bushels to the acre and the wheat made from seven to thirty-six bushels. The best wheat was Georgia red May, a large red variety. The red was premium wheat sent here from the Atlanta exposition. It was sowed early in November, on valley land that had been plowed nine to ten inches deep, and thoroughly harrowed in with a two-horse harrow. It produced a little over thirty-eight bushels to the acre. The corn will make from thirty to forty bushels per acre. The hemp was higher than we could reach. The rice was a failure, and probably always will be without irrigation, as it requires a very moist soil. There are some promising peach, apple, plum and cherry trees. These are young and have not borne yet, except the peach trees, which bore a few very good peaches this year. The peach trees have shown a wonderful growth, having grown six feet last year and four feet this year up to date. There are some grape vines also, and they are doing well. There is scarcely any doubt but that grapes can be made a success, as the wild grape grows in great abundance. Ceres has indeed smiled upon us during the last two years, and there are those who will say to you, "wait till an unfavorable season comes upon us," but it should be remembered that this is a new country and the people who are farming are but little acquainted with the climate and soil. This knowledge, which can only be acquired by experience, will more than counterbalance advantages of the favorable seasons of the past two years.

Just west of the farm is a mineral well which may prove of great value to the community. It is already patronized by a great many who claim to have derived much benefit from its use. If there is any thing in strength and tastefulness of taste it will undoubtedly be of inestimable value. The water has been analyzed by the chemist of the agricultural department at Washington, and his report shows the following: "Qualitative analysis shows the presence of a large amount of sulphates and bicarbonates of iron, lime, magnesia and sodium; small amount of chlorides, also blumina and silica, and traces of phosphates and potash salts." Those who profess to know say this shows highly medicinal properties.

The emigrant house near by is kept supplied with wood and water and shelters prospecting free of charge.

## Prof. Johnson's Views.

[Louisville Courier-Journal.] Professor Johnson, a colored lecturer who holds that the world is flat, says: "Ten thousand miles beyond the North Pole there is probably another world with another people. Its inhabitants are, perhaps, trying to discover this world, and an attempt at discovery on our part may result in the voyagers meeting in space and exchanging air biscuits and water by the way. The color of the people is blue, their climate 500 degrees below zero. The distance of the fixed stars cannot be told to an inch, and from careful measurement with the eye it is certain that the distance to the sun is about 250 miles."

200 patterns of pocket knives from 10 cents to \$10 each at Anderson's Gun Store.

A granddaughter of Robert Burns, it is asserted, is at present in receipt of relief from the London Scottish corporation. Her name is Mrs. Pyke. She is the wife of a workman, who has, though no fault of his own, fallen into poverty, and the daughter of the poet's oldest son Robert, who for some time was employed in the Somerset house.

While the queen is at Balmoral, her northern castle, special trains are run between Aberdeen and Ballater every day, not at the cost of her majesty as is generally supposed, but by the home office. These trains cost nearly £70 a week, and during the last ten years the amount paid to the company has been nearly £46,500.

The wheat being harvested in Kansas, shows a better yield than was anticipated. In fact it is little short of the yield of last year. Fine and reasonable weather has assured the corn crop and the yield. It is estimated, will fully reach the figures of last year. Kansas is booming.

Munk Murphy, a brakeman, with a claim to eccentricity, has established it by riding into Boston coiled up on the truck under the car to win a bet that he could not steal a passage. Lacking a flag to waive in token of victory, he took off his shirt and flung it to the breeze.

Sims Reeves, the famous tenor, is a portly man, weighing nearly 200 pounds, with a full, chubby face, and a quantity of curly iron-gray hair, once jet black, of which he has always been very proud.

## The New Hampshire Ballot.

Concord, August 1.—In the thirty-ninth ballot for United States senator to-day Pike gained nine over yesterday's vote.

## SPECIAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

## Attorneys at Law.

G. McCLUNG, Attorney at Law. Office corner Main and First street, in Hanna building, Fort Worth, Texas.

McMILLAN & HUMPHREYS, Attorneys at Law, Fort Worth, Texas. Collecting corporation and general litigation. Office in Terrell building, corner First and Main streets.

J. K. JAMASON, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Whitesboro, Texas.

TARLTON, JORDAN & TARLTON, Lawyers and Real Estate Agents, Hillsboro, Texas, have complete abstract of all surveys in Hill county. Special attention given to buying and selling lands, perfecting titles, etc.

EDGAR RYE, attorney at law, (county attorney) Albany, Texas.

J. P. ORR, Lawyer and Land Agent, Vernon, Wilbarger county, Texas.

H. W. PATTON, Attorney at Law, (Cebu, Texas). Collections promptly made. Office over Johnson County Bank.

HALL & PATTON, Attorneys at Law and General Land Agents, Alvarado, Texas. Refer to Alvarado bank, L. B. Truelove, J. M. Hill, N. F. Sparks.

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A. E. DODSON, Land and Collection Agent, Gainesville, Texas.

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PAUL C. HUDSON, Attorney at Law and Notary Public, Alvarado, Texas, will practice in the courts of Johnson and adjoining counties, in the State Appellate and Supreme Courts. All business entrusted to his care will receive prompt and faithful attention. Office up stairs over Cotter's dry goods store, north side of square.

F. O. CALL, Lawyer, Notary Public and Land Agent, Hillsboro, Hill county, Texas. The firm of McKinnon & Call has been dissolved, and I remain collector of all claims heretofore in the hands of said firm. Will attend to a general collecting and business. I have special facilities for collecting claims in this section of the state. References—Hill County Bank, F. Strick, Banker; Perrell & Fox, N. Stroud, John D. Warren, Hillsboro. Missouri Pacific Railway Company, and Texas Central Railway Company. Very respectfully, F. O. Call, office in Warren's Building (up stairs).

## Hotels.

CENTRAL HOTEL, rock house, south side of public square, Albany, Texas, S. F. Stinson, proprietor. Sample room for commercial travelers. Free lunch from de part hotel.

CROCKETT HOUSE, Bonham, Texas, clean C beds, airy rooms, a good fire-proof safe, sample and well-arranged bath rooms.

CLEBURNE HOUSE, Cleburne, Texas, W. H. Brown, Proprietor. Good accommodations, reasonable rates. Commodious sample rooms for commercial men.

CENTRAL HOTEL, Bonham, Texas, C. Drummer, Proprietor. Best and largest hotel in the city; large and airy rooms; first-class accommodations.

EXCHANGE HOTEL—SOUTH SIDE PUBLIC SQUARE, 120 yards from Hanna's spring, Louisiana, Texas, Barrow & Co., proprietors. Well-ventilated rooms, airy dining room, and table supplied with the best of everything to be had.

CARRETT HOUSE, Cameron, Texas, M. Garrett, Proprietor. House new and well furnished; northeast corner of the square. Table to compare with the best hotels in the state. Rates reasonable. Most accessible to the business portion of the town.

McGREGOR HOUSE—MAIN STREET, McGregor, Texas, by Mrs. D. J. Ish and Mrs. C. Heard, the drummer's home, table supplied with all the delicacies of the season.

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## GAINESVILLE HACK LINE.

LEE & ARNETT HAVE PUT ON A HACK line between Whitesboro and Gainesville. The hack leaves Whitesboro at 9 a.m., immediately after the arrival of the east-bound Texas and Pacific train, and leaves Gainesville at 2 p.m., in time to connect at Whitesboro with the south-bound train. Fare each way, \$1.25.

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